

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA . CRIMINAL NO. 15-10300-DPW
V. . BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
JOHN FIDLER ET AL . MARCH 22, 2016
Defendants .
.

TRANSCRIPT OF MOTION HEARING
BEFORE THE HONORABLE MARIANNE B. BOWLER
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

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1 (Court called into session)

2 (3:34:38 PM)

3 THE CLERK: --District Court for the District of
4 Massachusetts is now in session. The Honorable Marianne
5 B. Bowler presiding. Today is Tuesday, March 22, 2016 in
6 the case of U.S. v. Fidler et al, Criminal Action 15-10300
7 will now be heard.

8 Would counsel please identify themselves for the
9 record?

10 MS. KAPLAN: Good afternoon, Your Honor, Laura
11 Kaplan on behalf of the United States Government.

12 THE COURT: Thank you.

13 MS. BARCLAY: And Christina Barclay on behalf of
14 the United States.

15 THE COURT: Thank you very much.

16 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Good afternoon, Your Honor,
17 Robert Goldstein on behalf of Mr. Harrington who is
18 present in the courtroom.

19 THE COURT: All right.

20 MR. CRUZ: Good afternoon, Your Honor, Oscar
21 Cruz for Daniel Redmond who is here as well.

22 THE COURT: Thank you.

23 MR. O'CONNELL: Tim O'Connell representing John
24 Fidler together with James Brothers representing John
25 Fidler. Mr. Fidler is present in the courtroom as well.

1 THE COURT: Thank you.

2 MR. BARRON: Kevin Barron for Michael Ross who's
3 seated here.

4 THE COURT: Thank you.

5 MR. LEPORE: Good afternoon, Your Honor, Carmine
6 Lepore for Mr. Cafarelli who's present.

7 THE COURT: Thank you very much. Well, we're
8 here for a hearing on Docket Entry No. 60 which is the
9 motion to dismiss the indictment. Related to that is
10 Docket Entry 81 which is the motion for discovery. The
11 mot, I'm sorry.

12 MR. KELLY: Your Honor, I'm, I'm Paul Kelly. I
13 represent the Mass AFL-CIO. We're here as amicus.

14 THE COURT: Did I not deny that motion?

15 MR. KELLY: I think you allowed that one, Your
16 Honor.

17 THE COURT: I guess so. I guess so.

18 UNIDENTIFIED: You're welcome.

19 THE COURT: Always nice to see you, Mr. Kelly.

20 MR. KELLY: Nice to see you too.

21 THE COURT: Docket Entry 81 motion for discovery
22 is denied.

23 So I'll hear you Mr. Goldstein, are you going to
24 argue on behalf of all defendants?

25 MR. GOLDSTEIN: I will, Your Honor. So, there,

1 there's been plenty of writing in terms of addressing the
2 issue so I kind of want to boil the issue down to what I
3 think at its most elemental root which is the following,
4 Your Honor. The, the motion to dismiss should be allowed
5 because the government indicted these defendants with a
6 misunderstanding of what the pertinent legal principles
7 are both under the Hobbs Act and under the National Labor
8 Relations Act or the applicable labor law. So let me
9 start with the Hobbs Act.

10 The government, the indictment in this case
11 charges that the defendants engaged in wrongful conduct in
12 the form of wages for unnecessary, unneeded, superfluous
13 services and, and the argument back and forth between the
14 defense and the government boils down to what's the proper
15 definition of that language which of course comes from the
16 *Enman's* case and prior to that comes from the *Green*
17 decision. The government, I contend, Your Honor, indicted
18 this case with the following understanding, and that is
19 that unneeded or unnecessary refers to the worker as
20 opposed to the particular services, meaning the
21 government's construction of the Hobbs Act is that when
22 the union comes to persuade an employer to sign a
23 collective bargaining agreement, if that work, if that
24 company has already hired a particular nonunion worker,
25 then by that fact alone, the union worker becomes

1 unnneeded, unwanted and superfluous under *Enman's*, and
2 that's a misreading of both *Enman's* and *Green* and all of
3 the law that follows. What it has to be, Your Honor, is
4 that the services offered is unneeded or unwanted.
5 Meaning from the *Green* case, the Swampers, who the company
6 at issue in *Green* had never used the service of a Swamper
7 and therefore the Court said that those services were
8 unnneeded and unwanted, or in the *Robolatto* case, the cover
9 drivers, again, unneeded and unwanted. Here, Your Honor,
10 the government concedes, and they have to because if you
11 take a look in the indictment drivers were a needed
12 service for the production company identified in the
13 indictment. If you, if you examine the indictment, Your
14 Honor, it charges in paragraph one, that the International
15 Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 25 was a labor organization
16 representing 11,000 employees and among other things the
17 transportation movie and moving in trade sh, trade shows.
18 Paragraph two, the primary purpose of Local 25 was to
19 negotiate and administer collective bargaining agreements.
20 Paragraph five, Company A was not a signatory to
21 collective bargaining agreement. They hired its own
22 employees including drivers. Paragraph six, in the middle
23 of paragraph six the producer explained that all of the
24 drivers had been hired.

25 A union members and union officers don't engage

1 in a Hobbs Act extortion when they go to a company to try
2 to persuade that company to replace nonunion worker with a
3 union worker when they are genuine services desired by the
4 company. Here the genuine service was drivers, and that's
5 what the defendants are charged with trying to push a
6 collective bargaining agreement so that the company would
7 hire drivers. It can't be that the company, that it's a
8 Hobbs Act extortion, simply because they've already hired
9 drivers. That's not what *Enman's* or the cases that follow
10 *Enman's* say, and so what we have is, we file our motion to
11 dismiss and the government come back, comes back and says
12 well look, it is unneeded and unwanted because the company
13 had already hired all of its drivers, and so then in our
14 reply pleading we say that's not what *Enman's* says.
15 That's not how you properly read *Enman's* and so the
16 government in its sur-reply then shifts theories, and so
17 before I get to the sur-reply, I want to get back to the
18 government's misunderstanding both of the Hobbs Act and
19 related labor law principles. In, in reply to our motion
20 to dismiss, the government comes back with two basic
21 principles. One is the one I just addressed, that the
22 workers were unneeded as opposed to the services, and then
23 two, the government relies on the *A. Terzi* case. Now
24 Justice Sotomayor's decision where she talks about
25 collective bargaining agreements, and that in that case

1 which wasn't a case addressing the language used in this
2 indictment meaning that was not a case of unneeded
3 unwanted workers. What Justice Sotomayor was addressing
4 in that case was, was labor law, and so what the
5 government says in their opposition to our motion to
6 dismiss is, well in *A. Terzi*, the, the court addressed
7 this labor law issue and in this case, our case, the
8 defendants had no right to engage in a collective
9 bargaining discussion with Company A because they didn't
10 represent a majority of the employees of the production
11 company, and this is the second of the government's
12 profound misunderstanding of relevant law, and we point
13 that out in our, in our, in our reply, Your Honor, is that
14 the way that this industry is set up, Local 25 does not
15 need to secure the, the majority backing of employees of
16 production Company A. That's not how it works. How it
17 works is there is there is a, there is a specific
18 collective bargaining agreement applicable to this
19 industry whereby the people who come in, it's an ad hoc
20 basis, companies come in and they become members or
21 signatories to a collective bargaining agreement, and then
22 pursuant to that particular collective bargaining
23 agreement, Local 25 supplies union officials, and so I
24 have for the Court's consideration a copy of the
25 collective bargaining agreement so the Court can see

1 exactly what is at issue in this particular case. And so
2 let me back up because--

3 THE COURT: And have you provided that to your
4 sister?

5 MR. GOLDSTEIN: They have a copy of it, Your
6 Honor. It, it, let me back up so I can get to, the, the
7 facts are important here and the context is important
8 here. What we have in this case, Your Honor, is the, the
9 classic *Enman's* factual scenario. We have a union at its
10 highest levels negotiating a collective bargaining
11 agreement with Company A. That is according to the
12 government itself, on June 9th, the night before the
13 picketing, the president of Local 25, Sean O'Brien and my
14 client, Mr. Harrington, Secretary Treasurer, are on a
15 telephone call with the person responsible for Company A
16 in the state of Massachusetts. This is in the indictment.
17 It's in the government's pleadings and they're discussing
18 Local 25's desire for Company A to enter into the
19 collective bargaining agreement. As a result of that
20 conversation, that night, Mr. O'Brien, president of Local
21 25 sends an email to the person heading Company A in
22 Massachusetts and says, as per our conversation see
23 attached, and what's attached and what I have for the
24 Court's consideration is the collective bargaining
25 agreement that Local 25 was hoping that Company A would

1 execute and so, Your Honor--

2 THE COURT: Well if you want me to consider it,
3 I mean, it should be attached and made part of the record.

4 MR. GOLDSTEIN: And I have a copy for the Court.

5 THE COURT: All right, and you will do that
6 electronically?

7 MR. GOLDSTEIN: I will, Your Honor, and so June
8 9th, at 5:16 p.m., Mr. O'Brien sends an email to the head
9 of Company A and attaches the collective bargaining
10 agreement. So, that's the context on the night before the
11 picketing event, and so you have at the highest levels a,
12 a, a dispute between the labor and the, and the
13 management. You have Local 25 at its highest level trying
14 to get this company to sign a collective bargaining
15 agreement. The next morning according to the government
16 both in its indictment and its pleadings, the president of
17 Local 25 either leaves a message or has a conversation.
18 The indictment says leaves a message I think, or it says,
19 had a conversation. The pleadings say vice versa. They,
20 they have it both ways. In any event, the next morning
21 Mr. O'Brien is alleged to have left a message saying we're
22 sending 50 guys to picket. We know that you're in Milton,
23 and so, that's the factual context for this particular
24 picketing. That is the classic *Enman's* paradigm. That is
25 a labor official at its highest levels trying to persuade

1 a company to enter into a collective bargaining
2 agreement. This is not *Green*. This is not a company
3 trying to force or create a job that didn't exist,
4 *Swampers*. This is not *Robolatto* trying to get them to
5 hire cover drivers. This is not Local 87 with guys
6 standing by the highway stopping trucks on the way into
7 Manhattan and taking money for jobs that aren't performed.
8 This is the classic *Enman's*. This is the classic pushing
9 for the execution of a collective bargaining agreement and
10 just because Company A doesn't want to use union labor,
11 doesn't convert this into a federal Hobbs Act extortion.
12 This is the exact situation that *Enman's* sort of
13 articulated which is a labor union using means. Now let
14 me back up in terms of the means used. There was no
15 violence. There were no punches thrown. This is, and
16 *Enman's*, Your Honor, they fired rifles at, at the company
17 property and blew up a substation. That was the conduct
18 at issue. Here we have at worst chest bumping, break,
19 cracking knuckles and yelling some ugly language at the,
20 at the members of Company A, but even blowing up a
21 substation's okay as long as it's in the context of
22 legitimate labor objectives, and the government, their
23 argument migrates or evolves from, well okay, maybe the
24 defendants have shown that it was in the context of a
25 collective bargaining situation but they later argue that

1 it's not, it wasn't a strike and they try and limit
2 *Enman's* to a, to the situation that involves just a
3 strike. That's a somewhat littered throughout the
4 government's papers, Your Honor, and *Enman's* isn't so
5 narrow. Not even close to being as narrow. What *Enman's*
6 says is that the word wrongful in the Hobbs Act only has
7 meaning if it, if it describes the taking of the property,
8 and what they repeatedly say throughout that decision is
9 conduct aimed towards legitimate labor objectives or
10 legitimate labor ends, and clearly here, Your Honor,
11 trying to get Company A to sign a collective bargaining
12 agreement was a legitimate labor objective and for that
13 reason the facts of this case fall squarely within, within
14 the four corners of *Enman's*.

15 And so, I know, Your Honor, has denied the
16 discovery motion but I, I do want to address, what the
17 government has done, Your Honor, is they've shifted
18 theories. In their sur-reply they now have a backup. So
19 in their opposition there's two, there's two basic
20 principles to the governments opposition. One is the
21 workers were unneeded, okay, and two is that Just, Justice
22 Sotomayor's decision automatically makes the defendants'
23 conduct in this case unlawful, and in our reply we point
24 out, A, it's not that the, that the particular worker is
25 unneeded, it has to be the service is unneeded and two,

1 the defendants in this case don't need the majority
2 backing of Company A employees. They're not interested as
3 Mr. Harrington frankly told the producer they're not
4 interested in Company A. They're interested in having a
5 couple of teamsters hired to drive the trucks which
6 happens all the time in Massachusetts in this industry.
7 That's how this industry works. And so what the
8 government does in their sur-reply is they, they migrate
9 to a new theory. One is they argue for the first time
10 that the defendants always understood no services would be
11 performed. That is not the theory charged in the
12 indictment. That doesn't appear anywhere in the
13 indictment. That doesn't appear anywhere in the
14 government's principal opposition to the motion to
15 dismiss. And then two, they, they come, and then they
16 start arguing that well okay if it is services as opposed
17 to workers well our, our backup position is that the
18 defendants not only understood that no services would be
19 performed but they, these guys were only drivers and so
20 the company had already hired production assistants, and
21 production assistants do driving and other chores, and so
22 now we've weaved some narrative for the Court to deny the
23 defendants' motions. And I respectfully submit Your
24 Honor, that the government can't post grand jury, change
25 its factual or legal theories, and that was the basis of

1 our discovery motion. Meaning, if you carefully read
2 their opposition and then carefully read our reply and
3 their sur-reply, they're changing their theory, and so I
4 would respectfully ask the Court to think again about the
5 disc--

6 THE COURT: No, I reviewed the discovery motion
7 carefully, and I determined that what you are seeking at
8 this time is inappropriate.

9 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Well, I'm not looking for, I'm
10 not challenging the evidentiary sufficiency before the
11 grand jury, Your Honor. If not, that's not the reason for
12 the discovery motion. All I'm saying is if the government
13 wants to rely on these new theories that are articulated
14 in their sur-reply, then they have to have presented
15 evidence before the grand jury about that theory. I'm not
16 attacking the sufficiency of the evidence. I'm just--

17 THE COURT: I understand--

18 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Okay.

19 THE COURT: --but my ruling stands.

20 MR. GOLDSTEIN: All right, so I don't know if
21 the Court has questions for me in terms of the *Enman's*
22 issue but I, I do want to make sure that it, it's--

23 THE COURT: You've clearly framed it.

24 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Okay. Thank you, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: Mr. Kelly, do you want to weigh in

1 at this time or do you want to hear from the government?

2 MR. KELLY: I'd be happy to speak now, Your
3 Honor--

4 THE COURT: All right.

5 MR. KELLY: --if it please the Court. I have
6 just three observations to make if I can and the first one
7 is that this indictment is, is actually breathtaking in
8 its scope. What was going on in this particular day was a
9 protest over substandard wages. It happens all the time.
10 Anybody, any member of the 700 local unions who are
11 parties, who are affiliates of the AFL-CIO, might have
12 been on that picket line. Based on the, this indictment,
13 if they were on that picket line, they would be subject to
14 a 20-year felony charge, and, and this is not, this is not
15 extortion like *Robolatto*, \$50,000 they got paid for
16 covered drivers. This isn't that. This is conspiracy to
17 extort, and the theory, this theory of superfluous
18 services I could be on that picket line. I could have no
19 idea that somebody said something that the government is
20 now going to, so it, it is really quite draconian, Your
21 Honor, in terms of, in terms of the very limited scope of
22 what has been alleged.

23 Second observation I would like to make is with
24 respect to, with respect to federal preemption. By, by
25 1959 the labor laws were pretty much in place. The

1 National Labor Relations Act contains, is made up of the
2 Wagner Act. That's the section seven rights we've
3 protected in our concerted activity and the Taft-Hartley
4 Act 1947 was all these unfair labor practices. That's
5 pretty much, it was pretty much in place and there was a,
6 a case came before the Supreme Court, *San Diego Building*
7 *Trades v. Garmin* in which certain picketing activity was
8 challenged in the California courts and California
9 determined that the picketing was a tort. It violated
10 state tort law and awarded damages. Supreme Court in the
11 United States rev, reviewed that and threw the damage
12 award out and they said this, when, when an activity is
13 arguably subject to section seven, protected activities,
14 or section eight, prohibited activities, the states as
15 well as the federal courts must defer to the exclusive
16 competence of the National Labor Relations Board if the
17 danger of state interference with federal policies be
18 avoided. So as far as *Garmin* preemption is concerned,
19 both arguably protected conduct and arguably prohibited
20 conduct is preempted. Now, and there's plenty of *Garmin*
21 case. We know however, that we're not dealing with state
22 law and federal law here. We're talking about two federal
23 laws. So, we go back to then Judge Sotomayor down in,
24 down in New York City someplace, maybe Brooklyn. I'm not
25 sure. The question came before her in the civil RICO

1 whether *Garmin* preemption applies to this extortionate
2 conduct which was alleged to have been a RICO predicate
3 act. She said, Second Circuit says no, and she actually
4 admonished the lawyers because they didn't tell her that
5 there was a split in the circuits, and she says, the First
6 Circuit says it does. That's *Tamborello*, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: Oh, I know the case.

8 MR. KELLY: Yeah, and, and *Tamborello* was a, was
9 a question of deprivation of property by force and so on
10 and so forth and the, and the court said well, if the only
11 illegality here is a labor law illegality, then that's not
12 Hobbs, Hobbs Act material. And so in my view, and, and I
13 get it, this is not a civil RICO case, it's a federal
14 prosecution, but if the First Circuit wants to change the
15 scope of *Garmin* preemption, they ought to do it. I think
16 as far as we're concerned, Your Honor, the, this, this is,
17 is a, is preempted by, by the National Labor Relations
18 Act. The, the, the preemption analysis is both arguably
19 protected and arguably prohibited. One of the, one of the
20 debates, one of the big debates that Congress had, and
21 there's a Supreme Court case on this one too, is whether
22 what they call top down picketing. Top down picketing is
23 recognitional picketing. We're going to put up a picket
24 line against a nonunion employer because we want to force
25 that employer to recognize our union. There was a debate

1 as to whether the National Labor Relations Act
2 prohibited that kind of conduct or not and it was, it was
3 debated in Congress. It actually was in 1959 that
4 Congress passed 8(b)7 of the Act which says recognitional
5 prohi, picketing is limited to certain circumstances and
6 one of them is no longer than 30 days. This particular
7 incident which probably falls under recognitional
8 picketing given to what I've, what I've heard of the facts
9 behind it was three hours. The *Robolatto* case, the
10 *Moulder (ph)* case that these, that the government cites,
11 Your Honor, these were multiyear challenges where, where
12 the, the employers were being coerced to do, to recognize
13 the, the plaintiffs. This was three hours. And so, so I
14 guess my point is--

15 THE COURT: Two minutes, Mr. Kelly.

16 MR. KELLY: Sorry. It is arguably protected
17 activity because if you read 8(b)7 for the first 30 days,
18 your, your conduct is protected. All right, and the last
19 point, Your Honor, the third observation is with respect
20 to the Hobbs Act. Violence does not make out a Hobbs Act
21 violation. As my brother said earlier it is, if, if there
22 is violence in connection with legitimate labor
23 objectives, it's not unlawful under the Hobbs Act. It may
24 be unlawful under state law and on that point, Your Honor,
25 picket lines are always attended or very often attended by

1 police details. They sit there. They tell them, they
2 tell them if you're getting too close to the, to the
3 people who are trying to get through the line, get out of
4 the way. They issue citations. It is the way picket
5 lines have been, have been regulated, Your Honor, is
6 listen to the cops. Do what they tell you. You can get
7 pinched if you don't. So what we have here is we have the
8 federal government second guessing the, who was it the
9 Milton police? You know, but there was a police detail.
10 They hired them, and nothing, nothing violent happened,
11 Your Honor. We've covered the--

12 THE COURT: You've covered your three points.

13 MR. KELLY: The final, the final point though,
14 Your Honor, even if you don't like, even if you don't like
15 the federal preemption, the Hobbs Act, and this is
16 interesting because, because the government says well the
17 Hobbs Act was after 1946 and that was before the Unfair
18 Labor Practice in 1947. It's actually not so. The Hobbs
19 Act when it was originally passed, it contained this
20 extortion definition. The president wouldn't sign it and
21 then it went back to Congress in 1948--

22 THE COURT: Okay.

23 MR. KELLY: --after the Taft-Hartley Act.

24 THE COURT: We don't need the history.

25 MR. KELLY: All right.

1 THE COURT: We like it but--

2 MR. KELLY: All right, but, but--

3 THE COURT: --at four o'clock we don't need the
4 history.

5 MR. KELLY: My point is that Section C of 1951
6 says nothing in the Hobbs Act shall modify or effect the
7 labor protective provisions of the Clayton Act, the Norris
8 LaGuardia Act which says that the police are in charge of
9 the picketing and the National Labor Relations Act. So I
10 say the Hobbs Act itself contains the preemptive effect of
11 Federal Labor law.

12 Thank you, Your Honor.

13 THE COURT: All right, thank you, Mr. Kelly.
14 Well Ms. Kaplan, are you going to argue?

15 MS. KAPLAN: I would like to, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: All right. Why shouldn't I allow
17 your brother's motion?

18 MS. KAPLAN: Okay. Your Honor, to begin with
19 and just as a general matter, the gra, grand jury
20 proceedings have a presumption of validity and regularity.
21 The defendants have failed to allege that much less show
22 that there's any evidence of any irregularity that
23 occurred and influenced the grand jury's decision to
24 indict. It's the government's position that this motion
25 is nothing more than the defendant seeking a ruling on

1 sufficiency of the evidence prior to trial and, Your
2 Honor, after spending more weeks than probably--

3 THE COURT: Well address Mr. Goldstein's points.

4 MS. KAPLAN: I'm going to Your Honor. The
5 issues that the defendants raise as I sit here today and
6 in their briefs are questions of fact for a jury to
7 decide. Whether the work that was demanded by the
8 defendants was for additional labor or whether it was for
9 replacement labor as the defendants now say is a question
10 of fact that a jury should be permitted to decide. The
11 government is going to argue that the defendants did not
12 seek a contract. Now Mr. Goldstein submits the collective
13 bargaining agreement to you, Your Honor. He got it from
14 the government. That collective bargaining agreement is
15 for the movie industry. It's not for reality television
16 shows and the witnesses from the production company will
17 testify that they've never signed one of those agreements.
18 They had no intention to sign that agreement. In
19 addition, Your Honor, there was supposed to be a meeting
20 the following Tuesday to discuss coming to possible terms
21 with the Teamsters. The defendants cancelled that
22 meeting, Your Honor. When Mr. Harrington shows up and
23 talks to the production assistants, what he says on the
24 scene is, I'm not as Mr. Goldstein says, I'm not
25 interested in Company A. I'm not interested in this

1 production company. I want to get a few guys on this
2 job. So by their own admission, they're not looking for
3 collective bargaining agreement. They're not looking for
4 a contract. They're looking to put a few additional
5 laborers to work, and that's when this becomes an
6 illegitimate labor objective. Whether there was a lawful
7 negotiation or not for work, again, Your Honor, that is a
8 question of fact for a jury. Whether there was something
9 other than picketing going on such as actual violence and
10 property damage and threats of economic harm as the
11 government alleges is a question of fact for the jury to
12 decide. They'll be 10 or more witnesses who will come
13 into the courtroom and will testify about violence. I've
14 heard them. They've testified in the grand jury. So to
15 say this case is not about violence is just not, not, not
16 so. I could go on, Your Honor, but these again are issues
17 that the government is entitled to present to a jury to
18 decide and there's nothing deficient about this
19 indictment. Now putting, putting that aside and turning
20 to the defendants' legal argument, it too is without
21 merit. Simply put, the defendants argue that the Supreme
22 Court's decision in *Enman's* applies and exempts the
23 defendants' extortionate behavior and their conduct at
24 Steel and Rye in Milton in June of 2014, the government
25 disagrees. The clear holding in *Enman's* applies only to a

1 legitimate strike situation where the union has a lawful
2 platform on which to seek higher wages. In the *Enman's*
3 case, there was a collective bargaining agreement. There
4 was a contract between the union and the employer. The
5 union had a right then, they had a platform to ask for
6 higher wages. In this case, Local 25 had no platform on
7 which to seek anything from the production company. The
8 productions employees had not recognized Local 25 as their
9 bargaining agent. They hadn't indicated any desire to
10 become members of the union. There was no collective
11 bargaining agreement. There was no project labor
12 agreement. There was no state, federal, city law of any
13 type that required the production company to use union
14 labor. The victim in this case, the production company
15 was legally entitled to hire whomever it wanted to as
16 production assistants to drive their trucks, and they did
17 that, and they entered into a contract with the production
18 assistants to drive their trucks. So they had a
19 contractual relationship with their own employees who were
20 nonunion employees when these defendants appeared on this
21 worksite demanding work that others already had, work that
22 was genuine. There's no question about that that needed
23 to be done but it was unnecessary, unwanted and
24 superfluous because others had already been hired and were
25 in fact contractually obligated to perform that work.

1 What *Enman's* held was that if the union pursues
2 agreements with new employers through tactics of violence,
3 threats and intimidation, it does not have a lawful
4 platform on which to claim the property of the employer
5 and the use of such tactics is wrongful under the Hobbs
6 Act. And that's what happened here, Your Honor. These
7 defendants even before they got down to Steel and Rye on
8 June 10th, showed up at various locations where the
9 production was shooting or staging and threatened to harm
10 the production. They used their political connections
11 with the City of Boston so that calls were made by city
12 officials to those employers who had already agreed to
13 permit filming throughout Boston and they did this to
14 ensure that these locations would refuse filming to go
15 forward. Threats were made by those City Hall officials
16 to withdraw the previously issued permits, and that is the
17 reason that the production company wound up on short
18 notice at a restaurant in Milton. Their permits had
19 already been issued by the City of Boston. They had
20 already been approved and the production was ready the
21 next day to film but because of the defendants' actions,
22 those locations where the production was supposed to film,
23 cancelled the filming. Once in Milton, again contrary to
24 what the defendants say, and again, indicative of the fact
25 that this a question of fact for a jury, the defendants

1 used actual force and violence and threats and
2 destruction to property to demand jobs that were already
3 contracted for. Now there is no question that these
4 defendants could have driven the trucks, but the
5 production assistants that were hired were hired not only
6 to drive the trucks, but they were hired to perform other
7 duties, duties that these defendants could not and would
8 not perform and they weren't, they weren't trained in,
9 they weren't able to--

10 THE COURT: Such as?

11 MS. KAPLAN: --such as setting up the stage,
12 moving the equipment. So this would have, they would have
13 been additional--

14 THE COURT: Moving the equipment, does that take
15 a lot of training?

16 MS. KAPLAN: Well the, well probably not, Your
17 Honor, but lighting. I mean people go to school for this
18 type of thing. Not, not only that, Your Honor, it's not
19 within their jurisdiction. They wouldn't do that type of
20 work. So had they been hired they would have been
21 driving. They would have been replacing the driver, but
22 they would have also been additional labor because they
23 couldn't perform the work that the drivers, the production
24 assistants were also doing. So that means that the
25 production would have had to have hired these defendants

1 as additional labor, labor that the production company
2 did not need or want just as the government pled in the
3 indictment. The cases following *Enman* support the
4 argument that without a lawful platform the demands that
5 these defendants made of the production company were in
6 violation of the Hobbs Act, and in *A. Terzi* production
7 then District Court Judge Sotomayor concluded that the
8 *Enman's* claim of rights defense did not apply. It simply
9 doesn't apply where the union is not authorized to
10 represent any of the employer's employees, and she went on
11 to say that it's a basic tenant of federal labor law that
12 a union has a right to demand that an employer recognize
13 or bargain collectively with the union unless does not
14 have that right, has no right to demand that unless it's
15 first obtained the majority backing of that employer's
16 employees and been certifies, certified as their
17 bargaining representative. While *Enman's* might apply to
18 violence instead of to the recognition of bargaining
19 demands of a properly authorized union because in that
20 instance the employer has a legal duty to recognize and
21 bargain with the union--

22 THE COURT: Just one second. I'm sorry. I have
23 a little emergency criminal business, but--

24 MS. KAPLAN: Okay.

25 THE COURT: Proceed.

1 MS. KAPLAN: So she went on to say that
2 forcing a collective bargaining agreement upon unwilling
3 employees and their employer is wrongful within the Hobbs
4 Acts meaning. The union is an outside meddler with no
5 lawful claim to the employer's property. And that's the
6 case that we have here, Your Honor. The government is
7 going to prove at trial that the defendants had no lawful
8 platform to make their demands and, Your Honor, even if
9 the Court were to find after hearing the evidence at trial
10 that there's some evidence that the defendants had such a
11 lawful platform, the Court can provide adequate jury
12 instructions pursuant to the *Enman's* case and it will be
13 left for a jury to decide whether their conduct falls
14 within or outside the protection of *Enman's*?

15 With respect to the amicus brief, Your Honor, I
16 certainly understand the concerns of the AFL-CIO that
17 somehow this indictment is an attempt by the government to
18 wrongly seek to limit a union's right to picket. That is
19 not what the government is doing here. The unions recog,
20 the government recognizes that the unions have a right to
21 picket and the government here has charged that the
22 wrongfulness and the defendants' actions was, was
23 threatening to picket but more than that it was their
24 actual conduct down in Milton. This is not a case about
25 substandard wages as counsel's, the amicus brief says.

1 This is the first time even hearing about that. These
2 were not defendants who were holding signs, talking to, to
3 inform the public that the production company was paying
4 substandard wages, and again, if that's what it is, if
5 it's a question of fact for the jury to decide, but that's
6 the first that the government's hearing about this. In
7 fact, the evidence is going to show that this picketing
8 that these activities down in Milton were not authorized
9 by the union itself. That is what the evidence is going
10 to show. This case is much more than just about
11 picketing. It's about the defendant's use of physical
12 harm, property damage and threats of physical and economic
13 harm, to demand wages for work that is unnecessary,
14 unwanted and superfluous and that's why it's a violation
15 of the Hobbs Act. The issue of preemption as argued in
16 the amicus brief doesn't apply here. The case law is
17 clear, that there's no preemption until *Garmin* where the
18 court does not have to decide any issues under the NLRA.
19 The NLRA is not a part of this indictment or part of this
20 case, and there'll be no determination necessary for the
21 Court to make under the NLRA. For these reasons the
22 relief sought by the amicus brief, that the indictment be
23 dismissed as the NLRA preempts the Hobbs Act should be
24 denied.

25 With respect to the defendants other arguments

1 as to void for vagueness of the mens rea argument, the
2 government will rest on its brief unless you have--

3 THE COURT: No, that's all right.

4 MS. KAPLAN: --any specific questions.

5 THE COURT: Briefly, I'll give you two minutes,
6 Mr. Goldstein.

7 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Thank you, Your Honor. Your
8 Honor, I have to respond to a couple of points. First,
9 first of all, just because the government has secured an
10 indictment doesn't mean we necessarily push this case to a
11 trial. *Enman's* itself, Your Honor, was a motion to
12 dismiss that was allowed by the district court, ultimately
13 affirmed by the Supreme Court. What we just heard is the
14 exact profound misconception of law applicable to this
15 case, misconception with all due respect by the
16 government. Ms. Kaplan just told you that the, the
17 services were "superfluous" because others had already
18 been hired. That's the government's articulation of its
19 theory of the Hobbs Act. That is completely contrary to
20 *Enman's*. It's not superfluous because others have been
21 hired. It's supler, superfluous if and only if the work,
22 the services are not needed. The Swampers in *Green*, cover
23 drivers. That's not this case. And so for present
24 purposes, Your Honor, we will concede, although we don't
25 agree, you can conceive for present purposes that there

1 were threats and there were violence. This is the
2 Supreme Court's language from, from, from *Enman's*, Your
3 Honor, at page 400. The lit, "The literal language of the
4 statute will not bear the government's semantic argument
5 that the Hobbs Act reaches the use of violence to achieve
6 legitimate union objectives." *Enman's* is not limited to
7 the strike contacts as Ms. Kaplan just argued to Your
8 Honor. Littered throughout *Enman's* are references to
9 legitimate union objectives with legitimate union ends,
10 and here, Your Honor, so the government, two, two
11 arguments. One is superfluous cause people are already
12 hired. That's not what the law is under *Enman's*. Two is
13 the defendants didn't have what Ms. Kaplan referred to as
14 a lawful platform to even enter into negotiations. That
15 too is incorrect, Your Honor. I'm going to hand up for
16 the Court's consideration, the actual collective
17 bargaining agreement with the email both of which the
18 government has, the email from Mr. O'Brien to Ellie
19 Carbohaul (ph) at 5:16 p.m., and if you look at the actual
20 language of the collective bargaining agreement, Your
21 Honor, first of all, "This collective bargaining agreement
22 is entered into this first day of August, 2013 by and
23 between New England Motion Picture and Television
24 Production Producers Association." So Ms. Kaplan's
25 argument that this contract doesn't apply to the

1 television industry it is contradicted by black letters
2 on white paper. This is the collective bargaining
3 agreement. What it says is that "Article 1 recognition,
4 based on a review of recognition cards executed by a
5 majority of drivers traditionally employed in the motion
6 picture and television production industry, theatrical and
7 entertainment industries in the geographical areas covered
8 by this agreement (which is New England) and the
9 association, meaning the Motion Picture Television
10 Production Producers Association, hereby recognizes the
11 union as the exclusive collective bargaining
12 representative of all transportation, coordinators and
13 captains specialized equipment drivers, mechanics,
14 Chauffeur, chauffeurs, helpers, DOT Compliance Officers
15 employed in connection with the production of motion
16 picture and television production industry." And then
17 when you go to the last page of the collective bargaining
18 agreement, what they ask for is any company that comes
19 into Massachusetts, that they sign this collective
20 bargaining agreement, "By executing the acceptance of this
21 agreement, the below named production company agrees to
22 become part of the New England Motion Picture and
23 Television Production Producers Association and to accept
24 the terms of the agreement." Meaning this is a
25 specialized area. Companies come into Massachusetts.

1 They shoot film. They shoot television commercials.
2 It's not some other disparate industry, and so what
3 happens here is they have a unique contract like the
4 construction industry discussed in the *Kirsh* (ph) case,
5 Your Honor, and what happens is when these companies come
6 into Massachusetts, local 25 negotiates with the
7 companies. They become a member, a party to this
8 collective bargaining agreement. Yes, the teamsters have
9 no interest in production in Company A. That's not their
10 interest. What their interest is Company A becoming a
11 party to this particular collective bargaining agreement
12 signing the acceptance of the terms and then hiring one or
13 two or more union members, and so we just heard it from
14 Ms. Kaplan. This case was indicted on an improper view of
15 law that superfluous means they have to, that it's, it's,
16 superfluous means the workers not the service and just
17 because they already hired the worker doesn't make the
18 union members unneeded, unwanted, unnecessary ur, or
19 superfluous. Thank you.

20 THE COURT: All right, I'll take Docket Entry
21 No. 60 under advisement.

22 MS. KAPLAN: Your Honor, if I may I just want to
23 point out that this CBA wasn't even a part of, you know,
24 the hundreds of pages of briefs and the government would
25 have liked an opportunity to have responded to that. The,

1 the testimony in this case is going to be that this,
2 that these, this production company was not a member of
3 this association, and now they're going to put the CBA in
4 to say here was this collective bargaining agreement?
5 It's not and it's a question of fact for a jury to decide
6 again.

7 THE COURT: All right, so noted. All right,
8 Brendan, where are we in this case on discovery and
9 status?

10 THE CLERK: (Inaudible - #4:17:07 PM).

11 THE COURT: Just want to see if we have another
12 status date?

13 MS. KAPLAN: I think we have another date.

14 THE COURT: Well I just want to be sure.

15 THE CLERK: I think at the last status we set it
16 up for the motions.

17 THE COURT: And the last status was what date?

18 THE CLERK: On 3/2 instead of for today.

19 THE COURT: All right, and we excluded the time
20 through today.

21 MR. GOLDSTEIN: I think I have March 2nd, Your
22 Honor as a--

23 THE COURT: We, yeah, we have a, there's a court
24 note--

25 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Okay. All right.

1 THE COURT: --from March 2nd.

2 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Yup.

3 THE COURT: So let's--

4 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Yes.

5 THE COURT: Let's talk about discovery at this
6 point. Where are we?

7 MS. KAPLAN: The government's completed
8 discovery.

9 THE COURT: All right. How much time do
10 defendants need?

11 MR. BARRON: I, I've written a discovery letter,
12 Your Honor, and the government has responded. We're not
13 in agreement over release of exculpatory information. The
14 government has made it's--

15 THE COURT: Does that surprise me, Mr. Barron?

16 MR. BARRON: It shouldn't, Your Honor. That's
17 the way things go I guess. So I, I think a motion will be
18 necessary. I, in order to, to keep the filings to a
19 minimum, I'm consulting with my brothers and we're--

20 THE COURT: All right.

21 MR. BARRON: --we're going to put together a
22 motion.

23 THE COURT: So what, another status conference
24 maybe in 30 days? And you will have your discovery.
25 You'll pretty much know whether or not you're going to

1 need further discovery letters the other defendants.

2 All right, can we have a date Brendon?

3 THE CLERK: How about April 26th at 2:30?

4 MR. BARRON: 26th.

5 MR. GOLDSTEIN: I'm actually, I'm out of, I'm
6 out of, I'm away on business that particular week, Your
7 Honor.

8 THE CLERK: Want to do May 3rd at 2:30??

9 MR. BARRON: That's fine.

10 MR. GOLDSTEIN: That's fine.

11 THE COURT: All right, on behalf of all five
12 defendants do you agree, counsel, to exclude the time from
13 today until the third of May for the purposes of speedy
14 trial?

15 COUNSEL: Yes, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: All right, hearing all affirmatives,
17 I will ask the government to file a motion promptly.

18 MS. KAPLAN: We will, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: All right. Any other matters you
20 with to bring to my attention at this time?

21 MS. KAPLAN: No, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: All right we stand in--

23 MR. BARRON: Is two o'clock--

24 MR. GOLDSTEIN: 2:30.

25 THE CLERK: 2:30.

1 THE COURT: 2:30. That's Brendan's favorite
2 time.

3 MS. KAPLAN: Thank you.

4 THE COURT: All right we stand in recess.

5 (Court adjourned)

6 (4:19:28 PM)

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CERTIFICATION

I, Maryann V. Young, court approved transcriber,
certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from
the official digital sound recording of the proceedings in
the above-entitled matter.

/s/ Maryann V. YoungApril 1, 2016

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